





re of England, to the note is almost  
ally condemned, and Mr. Gladstone is  
y attempting to crawl out of it.  
Consul-General at Cairo has been

to call on the Khedive, and explain a note—no significant beyond accord with the French Government. Serrin has had an interview with the and has strained diplomatic ingenuity to appear that England's signature to the was nothing, but the Sultan has protested Gambetta has neither yielded a hair's nor explained away a jot. There England pledged to France to maintain Twi, would England "back down," as much the or France; she will occupy Egypt herself Twi come to grief. Serious errors are committed in this trans-

After the odium which France has  
cast upon herself by her conduct at Tunis,  
she could never have assented to occupy Egypt  
with her. To the Mahomedans, this has  
appeared as an outrage. Then again it is admitted in

that the interests of England and France are equal. This admission of equality has been more loudly repudiated, and the charge has been made that England has been more interested for us than for Germany. At all events, it seems certain that the Government of Berlin has been doing its best to make the alliance with England and France the affair. Germany, it is said, attaches little importance to the matter, but considers the step calculated to lead to complications. It is true that Germany has (for her) large interests in it, and is hurt at not being consulted. It is also true that she is not so anxious as is supposed to have a new alliance, and would even go so far as to say that this is ominous. The only power with France can be allied is Russia. The want of Russia would render the alliance almost worthless, and also increasing but not in the most ordinary manner.

as much as were the Bulgarians. The  
 and the same feeling was expressed  
 announced in the open face of any, the an-  
 as being both unwilling and unable to stop  
 How will Mr. Gladstone's sympathies  
 now?

THREE DICTATORS, of France, and  
 circumstance of Germany, of Prussia, and  
 England being each respectively under the  
 control of a single man, have met the eye  
 of observers. More remarkable still is the fact  
 these three statesmen are each struggling  
 power under the threat of revolution, or  
 single statesman, and the result of the  
 of any one of them would render the for-  
 of a minority possible only on suffrage.  
 Bismarck, being completely isolated  
 Emperor, to a receipt informing his loving subjects  
 he both reigns and governs, and that his  
 are responsible to him, and that he is  
 himself, has intimated that unless  
*curtain de liste* be made part and parcel of  
 his reign, he will resign. I do not under-  
 stand the point, but the Emperor's  
 is a Russian majority. Mr. Gladstone is  
 remained to obtain the *clature*, that is to say,  
 majority are to have the power of muzzling  
 whenever it is necessary. The  
 wanted freedom of debate is to be dis-

**THE SITUATION IN IRELAND.** The situation in Ireland, Mr. Gladstone said, does not improve a bit. The Government is to be congratulated for having held out stoutly, and for having refused to be bullied by the holders of rent. Government send soldiers and to protect the emergency, and who are em- ployed-labourers to move the articles sold. The Government are generous in their treatment of the poor. Boycotting is turned against the agent by de- termining the prices obtained at auction. To- day these auctioneers the robbers tear up the articles, and the Government trade is impossible.

**THE GROWTH OF DEMOCRACY.** Mr. Gladstone said, in opening the Liverpool College, that Derby, in opening the Liverpool College, said he is president, on Saturday, con- sidering the citizens of Liverpool, and the city of London, each endowed with £10,000, and beginning free from debt. Though they are changing times, democracy approaches the gates of the nation. The Government, in the future, the foundation would not be disowned, and implies that his Lordship appreciates the meaning of a democracy which will annihilate the aristocracy, and it is not a democracy.

**MR. GLADSTONE AND FREE TRADE.** Mr. Gladstone has made another speech on Free Trade, wherein he ignores all facts and the progress of commerce, and the im- portance of the subject to be discussed.

[illegible]

essor Lyons Lev, Sir W. Ruse Robinson, Major Matheson, &c. Sir Rutherford originally of great length and with a vigorous and somewhat dramatic delivery, and he, at recent meetings, beginning with the report of the Arabiaboph of York at Sheffield. To the effect the presence of the opium trade in the East, the Government, reference was made to a map showing that out of the 13 provinces minus proper the nine lying to the west and east from the coast, the latter had a population of 170,000,000, and with an estimated population of 170,000,000, were largely under the growing opium enough for their whole consumption. The Government had been completely in 1730. There was no doubt of its being a common Asiatic narcotic from immemorial. It was far more true than any other aspect of the opium trade, and forced upon the Chinese than that we had added opium upon them. But comparing the use of opium on whole populations, it can be seen that the Chinese had been using the narcotic and other intoxicating liquors in countries in this country alone worked more briefly and brought home ruin and misery upon the people of the coast of Great Britain, and with a greater waste and impoverishment to the people than all the opium, foreign

total annual importation of Indian opium into China cost £12,900,000, and for native-grown opium, assuming this to be equal in quantity at the rate of the cost of the foreign opium, 300,000,000—not a great sum for a national levy. It would, among the 300,000,000 of population, amount to only one penny per person, and would be a small addition to the taxes already written and spoken of. Strong as, I think, is the feeling against the opium trade, I really in the United Kingdom think opium did more harm than any other article of commerce. I really know nothing about the question, but I think that the Chinese Government betrayed its ignorance by the failure of its engagements, encouraged to reply on the part of the British Government, and that the British Government was as to the pernicious effect of the drug promptly demolished by Sir George Birdwood, who was able to persuade the Chinese Government, and as this gentleman in connection with the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service was able to gather up the scattered fragments of the opium trade, and of sincerity in the Chinese Government's professions of their desire to put down the opium trade.

The anti-opium advocates positively told me that the "war" was not a success. The result of the discussion on the public has been so good that all the leading papers have turned

t round, and in their comments on the question take a sensible and reasonable view of the question which is quite refreshing after all the redomestication that has been said and written about it.







